Michael Daxner President of the Magna Charta Collegium

# Questionnaire

# 1. So what do you think a university is?

ON A SCALE OF 0 TO 5, HOW WOULD YOU RATE THE IMPORTANCE OF EACH OF LISTED FEATURES OF UNIVERSITY?

(0=NOT IMPORTANT, 5=MOST IMPORTANT):

- \_4\_\_\_ being comprehensive (universal academia)
- \_\_4\_\_ being autonomous
- \_3\_\_\_ being integrated
- \_\_4\_ having the highest quality of research and teaching
- \_3\_\_\_ having the right to award the PhD degree
- \_\_\_4\_\_ being non-profit
- \_\_4\_\_ being responsive to societal needs
- \_\_3\_\_ being accessible to all who could benefit

Are there any other features that you think are important but are not on the list? Which ones?

#### \_bridging he gap between experts and laypersons\_

Do you think that following functions should be associated to the university (U), or faculty (F) or both (U/F)?

- u\_\_\_enrolling students
- u\_\_\_employing staff
- u/f\_\_\_\_ deciding on the content of study programmes
- u/f\_\_\_\_ recruiting to academic positions
- u/f\_\_\_issuing diplomas/degrees
- u\_\_\_\_negotiating with government for funding
- u/f\_\_\_\_international relations
- u/f\_\_\_quality assurance
- u\_\_\_\_student support services

\_u/f\_\_library

# 2. Challenges to autonomy

DO YOU AGREE THAT UNIVERSITIES SHOULD HAVE THE RIGHT/FREEDOM TO (ON A SCALE OF 0 TO 5):

- \_3\_\_restructure themselves internally as they see fit
- \_5\_\_employ their own staff
- 4\_\_\_\_vary salary scales and similar remuneration according to institutional needs;
- \_4\_\_have budgetary autonomy
- \_4\_\_own property
- \_4\_\_have access to private funding
- \_5\_\_retain earnings from their own assets or from donations and to set up holding companies
- \_3\_\_perform management by goals instead of management by rules
- \_2\_withdraw from the state status if they want to
- \_5\_\_define their own strategic and long-term\_vision;
- \_3\_\_respond effectively to increasing domestic and international competition.

# 3. Challenges to university governance

IN UNIVERSITY GOVERNANCE PLEASE CHOOSE WHAT WOULD BE YOUR PREFERENCES

Who do you think should be involved in the governance of universities:

- universities should decide for themselves (staff and students only)
- universities and governments
- universities, governments and business/enterprise
- universities, governments, business and other societal representatives
- X universities, social representatives with counsel by others (government, business etc.)

Rector should be

- appointed via advert
- appointed by board of directors for a fixed term
- elected from and within local staff
- neither of these

Deans/ heads of department should be

- appointed via advert
- appointed by rector
- elected from and within local staff
- neither of these

The university personnel should be hired by

- rector
- dean
- a body appointed by rector
- neither of these

Posts and tenures in the universities should come under

- legislation on labour contracts if specific to science and universities
- civil service regulations
- neither of these

The board of directors should be chaired by

- rector
- an external member
- neither of these

#### 4. A paradigm shift in the evolution of HE system

IN YOUR COUNTRY, WHAT ARE THE ASPECTS OF THE MINISTRY/GOVERNMENT ROLE WHICH YOU THINK ARE MOST URGENT TO CHANGE (RATE THE URGENCY ON A SCALE OF 0 TO 5)?

\_5\_\_provide predictable long term funding framework for universities with multi-year financial planning;

\_4\_\_increase universities' financial powers in the short and the longer term while retaining appropriate regulatory powers of the government

\_1\_\_make recommendations for a reform of university governance with a view to strengthening the prerequisites for universities' internal management,

\_5\_\_make recommendations for endowment of a separate legal personality to universities which would ensure legal separation from the state legal personality

\_5\_\_\_withdraw from unnecessary bureaucratic control, micro-management and paper-driven regulation and interference

3\_\_\_\_ provide only a broad policy framework and delegate the rest of power to the competent independent intermediary bodies.

\_\_4\_make transfer of assets worth millions of euros to university or non for-profit independent foundation which acts as founder of the university

# 5. Private higher education institutions

How do you think it will be possible to maintain and develop public and social responsibility for higher education as private finance plays an increasingly important role in universities?

\_\_there must be legal framework rules for private institutions (not for profit), as

accessability, minimum quality standards etc. - avoid for profit universities with the right to

grant degrees which should be recognized by the state /

EC\_\_\_

Please describe in brief what is your perception of the concept of

"private higher education institution"? \_I do not care for OWENRSHIP, but for FUNCTION

AND SOCIAL EQUALITY. Standards must be the same as with stae owned universities.

But the university - private or state owned - must first of all "own itself

Do you think that "private" higher education institutions normally exist in countries with long lasting experience in market economy?

# No. just in intellectually less demanding or highly profitable disciplines.

According to your best knowledge are private higher education institutions typical for

- western European countries
- SEE countries
- both
- neither

Do private higher education institution usually mean "for profit"? in SEE yes

Do you know any example of non-for profit higher eduction institution in Europe?

#### Yes, many foundations

Have you heard of foundation -owned universities?

#### Yes

How would you call higher eduction institution endowed with legal personality separate from the state legal personality but receiving funding from the state: private or non-private.

#### Ideal

# 6. Bologna Process and Higher Education Institutional Reform Process

DO YOU THINK THAT HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTIONAL REFORM IS A PREREQUISITE FOR GENUINE

IMPLEMENTATION OF BOLOGNA PROCESS

# YES ... please explain why? \_It is important to recognize the EUROPEAN DIMENSION INSTAED OF NATIONAL8ISTIC9 REMAINDERS

NO ... please provide the arguments against!

THEY DO NOT RELATE ... please provide an explanation?

The Questionnaire may be a good introduction into the topic of the conference. The danger is that the public function and ownership become mixed and blurred. I suggest to discuss the two questions separately. And I miss academic freedom among the features of autonomy, despite there is tension between the two.